

every 4 hours until the symptoms of the gastrointestinal disorder subside.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Following is an example illustrating the best mode comprehended by the inventor for the practice of the present invention.

EXAMPLE

Two cups of oatmeal was added to 10 cups of water in a saucepan. The slurry so formed was brought to a boil with stirring and allowed to simmer for 3 hours. The aqueous extract was then separated by straining from the solid oatmeal and cooled to room temperature.

Although oatmeal from various sources has been found to have utility in the practice of the present invention, the very best results are obtained when the oatmeal employed is rolled oats having the following analysis for each ounce thereof: calories—110; protein—5 g.; carbohydrate—18 g.; fat—2 g.; cholesterol—nil; sodium—10 mg.; potassium—55 mg.; and trace quantities of Vitamins A, C, D, thiamine, niacin, riboflavin, calcium, iron, and phosphorous. This oatmeal is marketed under the brand name "QUAKER OLD FASHIONED" oats by the Quaker Oats Company, Chicago, Ill.

Although the thickness of the slurry employed in this example affords excellent handling, a thicker or thinner consistency may be employed without any reduction in the therapeutic value of the resulting extract.

After the slurry has been brought to a boil, it is advantageously maintained at or near thereto, as by simmering, for at least 1 hour, and most advantageously, for at least 3 hours prior to separation of the aqueous extract from the solid oatmeal. Separation is accomplished by standard means such as filtration or straining through a fine mesh screen.

After the aqueous extract was separated from the solid oatmeal and cooled to room temperature, it was employed without more in the treatment of patients having gastrointestinal disorders. However, if desired, a small amount of sugar may be added, in order to make the liquid more desirable, especially for the young.

The aqueous extract according to the present invention was administered orally to two children suffering from severe gastrointestinal disorders. Both were but weeks old, one having been a full term baby, the other, 2 months premature. Both had severe vomiting, diarrhea, increased flatus, and cramping, in addition to rectal bleeding and severe skin eruptions. Neither could tolerate mother's milk, cow's milk, or any available synthetic formula. The aqueous extract of the present invention was administered orally (by means of an infant bottle) in amounts of 4 to 8 fluid ounces every 4 hours. Severe symptoms began to subside after about 36 hours. After about one week the symptoms had completely disappeared.

The aqueous extract of the present invention was administered in the same manner and with equally beneficial results to infants having colic, and infants having an allergic intolerance of milk and synthetic formulas based on soy isolates. It was also administered orally to the infirm who were suffering from nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, increased flatus and severe cramping. The same excellent results were achieved.

The present invention has been described in detail with respect to certain preferred embodiments. Variations in this detail may be effected without any departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, as described in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A process for treating patients having a gastrointestinal disorder selected from the group consisting of infant colic, infant intolerance of milk and synthetic formulas, and intolerance of solid foods by the elderly or the infirm, the gastrointestinal disorder manifested by one of nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, increased flatus, and cramping, which process comprises orally administering to the patient an amount effective to bring about the removal of alleviation of the gastrointestinal disorder of an aqueous extract resulting from boiling a slurry of water and raw oatmeal and separating the aqueous phase from the solid oatmeal.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the aqueous extract of oatmeal is orally administered in amounts of 4 to 8 fluid ounces every 4 hours until the symptoms of the gastrointestinal disorder subside.

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